

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for a modulator of angiogenesis comprising:

- (a) contacting a first biological sample capable of undergoing angiogenesis with an ECM signaling molecule and a suspected modulator;
- (b) contacting a second biological sample with an ECM signaling molecule; and
- (c) comparing the level of angiogenesis resulting from step (a) and from step (b), whereby a modulator of angiogenesis is identified by its ability to alter the level of angiogenesis when compared to step (b),

wherein said ECM signaling molecule is a biologically effective amount of CCN3 ~~or a fragment, variant, analog, homolog or a derivative thereof.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the biological samples of steps (a) and (b) are also contacted with one or more CCN polypeptides selected from the group consisting of CCN1, CCN2, CCN4, CCN5 and CCN6, ~~or a fragment, variant, analog, homolog or derivative of said one or more CCN polypeptides.~~

3. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for a modulator of angiogenesis comprising:

- (a) implanting a first implant comprising an ECM signaling molecule and a suspected modulator in a first cornea of a test animal;
- (b) implanting a second implant comprising an ECM signaling molecule in a second cornea of said test animal;
- (c) comparing the development of blood vessels from step (a) and step (b), whereby a modulator of angiogenesis is identified by its ability to alter the level of blood vessel development in step (a) when compared to the blood vessel development in step (b).

wherein said ECM signaling molecule is a biologically effective amount of CCN3 ~~or a fragment, variant, analog, homolog or a derivative thereof.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 wherein the implants of steps (a) and (b) further comprise one or more CCN polypeptides selected from the group consisting of CCN1, CCN2, CCN4, CCN5 and CCN6, ~~or a fragment, variant, analog, homolog or derivative of said one or more CCN polypeptides.~~

5. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for a modulator of oncogenesis comprising:

- (a) administering an ECM signaling molecule and a suspected modulator to a first tumor;
- (b) administering an ECM signaling molecule to a second tumor; and
- (c) comparing the level of oncogenesis resulting from step (a) and from step (b), whereby a modulator of oncogenesis is identified by its ability to alter the level of oncogenesis when compared to step (b),

wherein said ECM signaling molecule is a biologically effective amount of CCN3 ~~or a fragment, variant, analog, homolog or a derivative thereof.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 wherein the tumors of steps (a) and (b) are also administered one or more CCN polypeptides selected from the group consisting of CCN1, CCN2, CCN4, CCN5 and CCN6, ~~or a fragment, variant, analog, homolog or derivative of said one or more CCN polypeptides.~~

7. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for a modulator of cell adhesion comprising:

- (a) adding an ECM signaling molecule and a suspected modulator to a first biological sample on a surface compatible with cell adherence;
- (b) adding an ECM signaling molecule to a second biological sample on a surface compatible with cell adherence; and
- (c) comparing the levels of cell adhesion measured in step (a) and step (b), whereby a modulator of cell adhesion is identified by its ability to alter the level of cell adhesion when compared to step (b),

wherein said ECM signaling molecule is a biologically effective amount of CCN3 ~~or a fragment, variant, analog, homolog or a derivative thereof.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the biological samples of steps (a) and (b) are also administered one or more CCN polypeptides selected from the group consisting of CCN1, CCN2, CCN4, CCN5 and CCN6, ~~or a fragment, variant, analog, homolog or derivative of said one or more CCN polypeptides.~~

9. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for a modulator of cell migration comprising the steps of:

- (a) seeding cells capable of undergoing cell migration onto a first gel matrix comprising an ECM signaling molecule and a suspected modulator;
- (b) seeding cells capable of undergoing cell migration onto a second gel matrix comprising an ECM signaling molecule; and
- (c) comparing the levels of cell migration measured in step (a) and step (b), whereby a modulator of cell migration is identified by its ability to alter the level of cell migration when compared to step (b),

wherein said ECM signaling molecule is a biologically effective amount of CCN3 ~~or a fragment, variant, analog, homolog or a derivative thereof.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the matrixes of (a) and (b) further comprise one or more CCN polypeptides selected from the group consisting of CCN1, CCN2, CCN4, CCN5 and CCN6, ~~or a fragment, variant, analog, homolog or derivative of said one or more CCN polypeptides.~~

11. – 20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) An antibody that modulates the binding of CCN3 to an integrin selected from the group consisting of $\alpha_v\beta_3$, $\alpha_5\beta_1$ and $\alpha_6\beta_1$, ~~or a variant, analog, homolog or derivative of said peptide.~~

22. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an antibody according to claim 18 and a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent, or carrier.

23. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~19~~ 21 further comprising one or more antibodies that modulate the binding of a CCN polypeptide to an integrin, wherein said CCN polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of CCN1, CCN2, CCN4, CCN5 and CCN6.

24. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~20~~ 23 wherein the CCN polypeptide is CCN1.

25. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim ~~21~~ 23 wherein the integrin is selected from the group consisting of $\alpha_6\beta_1$, $\alpha_M\beta_2$, $\alpha_v\beta_3$, $\alpha_v\beta_5$, $\alpha_5\beta_1$, $\alpha_{II}\beta_3$ and $\alpha_6\beta_1$.